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Near Union Depot

From Palm Groves to Snow Drifts

The world is small, and humanity much the same—the widest differences seems to be in facial outline, and soul outline. One finds faces and faces. Souls are hard to find. Other outlines there are—Geographical outlines are the most easily traced, perhaps, for the reason they lie above ground. There is so much that lies hidden.

To start on geographical lines from a given point on the twenty-fourth of August, and land at another given point on the first of November—almost continuous travel by the aid of fast running expressmen and Ocean liners over three oceans. Sailing from Central America ports via the West Indies, including the lands of San Salvador and Cuba to New York, one is apt to cover some ground as well as water and like Noah's dove seek almost way old branch which would light. But did we? No, not land—snow, and with a big "B," and like the old referred to, were more of less disconcerted on being told that possibly to the first of April the snow would gradually disappear and the branches be found, but then April 1st is no deceiving. In old times, branches were found in less time, but that is neither here nor there. We thought—it we did not speak—and that was not all, we shivered, but neither shivers nor thoughts disturbed the snow. It continued to fall, while one's mind wanders towards speculations in coal.

But while one wanders, either mentally or physically, were it possible to strike a happy medium in the broad November—most anywhere—say, between Northern Alaska or the Gulf of Mexico, one might be enabled to give a more descriptive of the geography, including incidents of interest.

From the Gulf of Mexico to the mouth of the Mississippi, some two days' travel over plains, rich farming lands and thoroughly thriving ranches, many pretty villages with their fine school buildings and sturdy churches speak well for the energy and improvements of the great southwest.

On reaching New Orleans with its acres of docks and numberless Ocean liners soon separates one from all interests, other than that centered in the great floating palace which stands between us and eternity. From New Orleans to Colón is a run of some seven days, points of interest lying in one places the islands of Haiti, Cuba and San Salvador, landing in the old Central American port of Colón, which in these later days is fast becoming Americanized, with its flourishing hotels, strangers' clubs, women's federation, Y. M. C. A., its parks and banks. Just opposite lies Cristóbal, the first of a long line of villages belonging to the canal zone, reaching the length of the isthmus to the city of Panama, lying on the Pacific coast, a ride of some three hours.

The great canal has taken form and shape in the last year, beforefore invisible, with its blue masonry and towering rocks, and the pilot of the great lake steamer which will tilt a large crew with water from the Chagres river that flows its course toward the sea. The Panama railroad, running parallel, gives one a clear sight of the master workmanship that has been accomplished, and one can almost measure the distance and time before it is finished.

The railroad and canal will present in time of service a picturesque scene, lying at the foot of the Lesser Antilles, which border the isthmus from ocean to ocean. The royal palm banana groves and flaming blossoms of varietal, blue and white, form nature's colors of America, already a standard for her workmanship, warmed by a torrid sunshine, and ocean breezes from off the shores of the Atlantic, Caribbean and Pacific waters present a landscape to be remembered—one an artist might be content with even a resemblance.

One regiment of cavalry now occupies quarters on the zone in addition to a company of marines, while artilleries are awaiting orders.

Slowly but surely America's interests and pride in the achievements accomplished will, in the near future, be granted. And then, the great round-trip through America's open highway. From Maine to the Caribbean channel, to the Pacific, through the Yucatan peninsula to San Francisco, to Manila, Japan, Chinese ports to the East Indie, Calcutta, Bombay, Russia Siberia, through by rail to the continent back to New York.

Surely, the training schools and merchant marine of the Gulf coast will wake up.

On leaving the Canal Zone the South American liner "Zarapata" from Curacao brought us to old Port Royal on the right as the steamer enters Kingston Harbor on the south coast of the Island of Jamaica, historical in earlier centuries when Drake's fleet ligated around these ports, and pirates from every known sea rendered little something to be fought for. As we enter the port of Kingston the Governor's Casa, with its mats and drawbridges, its ruins of old forts with port-holes and rusty guns at the water's edge, and caves in which were buried their treasures like deep seas leave their marks, while around the point, coming in full sight of Kingston, old and new, we find a very little city, a portion of which has been rebuilt. The main streets with their modern improvements are broad and well paved, its public school buildings are fine and at its docks were anchored ships from all over the world. Churches, parks and other public interests were in evidence, all showing progress and energy, since the fire some four years ago, which swept away a large portion of the

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BUILDING HOSPITALS FOR TUBERCULOSIS

Work of the State Commission to Fight White Plague.

AUSTIN, Dec. 21.—Dr. Ralph Steiner, chairman of the State Anti-Tuberculosis Commission, announces that active construction has begun on the first of the State Tuberculosis hospitals. This hospital is located near San Angelo and will be completed in May.

The commission consists of State Health Officer Steiner, Dr. Culpepper, Frank H. Bruggek of Corpus Christi, Chas. E. Connell of Elkhart, and F. Chas. Hunt Jr., of Houston.

At its last session the legislature appropriated \$100,000 for the purchase of land for the colony plants and for buildings and equipments necessary to complete them and \$100,000 for operating expenses for the years 1912 and 1913.

For each colony the governor appoints a regularly licensed physician who is as well its superintendent and is such vested with power to remove at will any person there employed.

Three classes of patients may be admitted to a colony:

1. Indigent public patients—that is, such as possess no property and are unable to reimburse the state, and for whose support no one is legally responsible. These are maintained by the state, and for them is reserved at all times not less than one-half of the accommodations of each colony.

2. Non-indigent public patients—that is, such as possess property in which the state may be reimbursed or for whose support more than one is liable. Those two are maintained by the state, which, however, may reimburse itself through the property of such patient, whether his or her government's possession, or by action against anyone responsible for his care.

3. Private patients. These dictate their own expenses. The commission may make special contracts with them at a rate not exceeding \$10 per week, payable in advance.

All money collected is paid to the Superintendent of the colony, who accounts for it and its use in maintenance and improvements.

If a sanitarium be full of patients an applicant for admission has nevertheless the right to enter upon furnishing his own bed and bedding and paying the regular charges for board and treatment.

After much inquiry, consideration and personal investigation, the commission selected and purchased for the site of colony No. 1, 120 acres of land in Colley's ranch, just Green county, sixteen miles west of the charming town of San Angelo, and quite near to the village of Carlsbad and on an altitude of about 4,850 feet. The purchase price of the land was \$8,880.

The site of colony No. 2 is not yet certainly chosen. The commission having information that the United States purposed the abandonment of Fort Clark and that they would probably cede the property to the state for utilization as a hospital for convalescents hoped and yet hopes to secure it. The state's representatives in both houses of Congress are using their offices with the United States to obtain the desired cession, and the place has so many elements of fitness that so long as there is a reasonable prospect for its acquisition, the commission is reluctant to consider any other site for colony No. 2.

It goes without saying that the state and the commission not only need and desire, but are entitled to have, the hearty cooperation and aid of the doctors in promoting the establishment, maintenance and efficiency of those colonies for the relief also of so many sufferers.

Aged Mexican is Shot.
(Caller-Herald Special)
SAN ANTONIO, Texas, Dec. 22.—Called from his home at 1 o'clock last night by a man whose identity has not been established, Blas Perez, 72 years old, a wealthy Mexican residing at 222 Lavaca Lane, was found dead at 5:30 o'clock Friday morning, his body lying in the gutter on Simon street. It is believed he was murdered but the only wound is a slight scratch back of one ear, from which only a few drops of blood had trickled.

The body was found by K. L. Strickland, a milkman, and the police were notified at once. Throughout the night, Mrs. Perez and the police conducted a search for Mr. Perez, as his absence from home alarmed his wife. They were unable to find any trace of him.

Gen. Trevino Resigns.
(By The Associated Press)
LAREDO, Texas, Dec. 20.—A telegram was received here today stating that General Geronimo Trevino, commander of the army of Northern Mexico, with his headquarters in Monterrey, had resigned, his resignation to take effect immediately.

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